IMPACTS OF COMPUTERISED MANAGEMENT PROCESS OF STOCKS IN MINEIRAS FAMILY FIRMS OF BUILDING MATERIAL: MULTICASES STUDY

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Abstract

The growth in civil construction in Brazil in recent years has generated many opportunities for the market. Entrepreneurs have sought solutions that help them in decision making in order stay competitive and market construction materials. This study aims to analyze the impacts of the process of computerised inventory management in mineiras family firms of building materials, located in Uberlândia in Minas Gerais state, Brasil. This is a qualitative work. For its development, we adopted the multicaes study, with the completion of interviews and participant observation, in order to know the process studied. The result was that the management of stock in the company not computerized presented some advantages like the fact not depend on external factors such as power supply or internet connection for consultation or low registration of products in stock. It is noteworthy, however, that there are numerous benefits of information system for companies that make use of it. It was observed that the information system allows users to inventory control through reporting, query faster gifts of items in stock, facilitating the activities of control incoming and outgoing products, management and analysis of items sold, among other advantages.

Keywords: Stock, Information system, Inventory management, Process

Introduction

The construction sector has been highlighted in the Brazilian economy. A Brazilian cities that have been highlighted for growth in this sector in recent years, Uberlândia is located in the Triângulo Mineiro in Minas Gerais state. According to an interview with the Journal site Market (2011), for a business family owner building material in Uberlândia in
Minas Gerais state. The increased demand for building materials was significant, as stated: "We were relatively prepared, but we had to make some adjustments, such as the acquisition of vehicles, employees and increasing minimum inventory. The stock-outs were punctual," said the interviewee. Also according to the businessman, demand grew 60% in 2010 compared to previous years, when demand was not so great. Due to the large number of companies in the same industry, consumers have the opportunity to conduct research, seeking to better meet their expectations. Besides a price compatible with the market, customers are looking to find companies in modern products and good quality. To make products according to customer requirements, inventory control becomes crucial for businesses. The information system has been a tool used by organizations in order to tailor the process of inventory control, seeking competitive advantage in the market. According to O'Brien (2004), inventory control systems, information process to reflect changes in product inventories. In this context, the question that guided this study was: What are the impacts of the process of computerized inventory management in enterprises of building material?

The objective of this paper to analyze the impacts of the process of computerised inventory management in mineiras family firms of building materials, located in Uberlândia in Minas Gerais state, Brazil. Therefore, a study was developed with two companies, one of them the other is not computerized. The second uses manual control of the movement input and output of items of inventory.

As a theoretical contribution is that studies on inventory management can be a source of additional information for future research on inventory management for retailers of building material and also for companies from other segments. The study has, as a practical contribution, the analysis of inventory management in a manual and computerized and can be useful for businesses that are evaluating the possibility of computerization of its processes. Thus, this study aims to assist industry operators to evaluate before deciding on their financial resources and professional staff on the benefits of deploying computerized inventory management through the Information System.

This study is organized into topics. In the next topic, the theoretical framework is presented. The third topic has been the methodology used to develop the study. In the fourth topic discusses results of multicase study. Finally, the final considerations are described.
Benchmark Theory
Definition of Information System

An information system can be defined as a set of interrelated components that collect (or retrieve), process, store and distribute information to support decision making, coordination and control of an organization. In addition to supporting decision making, coordination and control, these systems also help managers and workers analyze problems, visualize complex subjects and create new products (Laudon and Laudon, 2004, p. 7).

According Chermont (2001), information systems consist of a combination of several elements organized structured the best way possible, to achieve the goals of an organization. Information Systems facilitate various tasks performed in organizations. By definition, information system "is an organized collection of people, hardware, software, communications networks, and data resources that collects, transforms and disseminates information in an organization" (O'Brien, 2004, p. 6), and still processes, stores, analyzes and disseminates information for a specific purpose (Turban, Rainer Junior and Potter, 2005).

Information outdated, inaccurate, or hard to understand would not be very significant, useful or valuable to [...] end users. People want high quality information, ie, information products whose characteristics, attributes or qualities help make them valuable to them (O'Brien, 2004, p.15).

Figure 1 below shows the proposed structure of a generic resource used by information systems.

![FIGURE 1 - Components and Related Resources for Information Systems. Source: Adapted from O'Brien (2004, p. 10).](image-url)
The Figure 1 includes a model of the components and resources related to the information system. An information system needs of human resources (users and professionals in Information System) data (database and knowledge bases), networks (media and support), hardware (machines and media) and software (programs and procedures), to perform its activity input, processing and output. As O'Brien (2004, p. 14) "entry usually presents itself in the form of data logging activities, such as recording and editing." The processing activity consists in the organization, manipulation and analysis of data, which are transformed into information for end users in various ways, in the output activity (O’Brien, 2004). "Information systems are systems that perform activities reporting, integrating technology and human groups, in different settings and social policies" (Souza, 2005, p. 1).

Already the Management Information System is defined as "a set of technologies that provides the means necessary for the operation of decision making in any organization by processing the available data" (Cross, 2000, p. 54). Nash and Roberts (1984, apud Oliveira, 2011, p. 26) complement the management information system:

It's a combination of people, facilities, technologies, environments, procedures and controls, which is intended to maintain essential channels of communication, processing routines typical of certain transactions, alerting executives to the significance of internal and external events and provide a basis for intelligent decision making.

Management information system is a set of routines, norms, rules or functions that produce information about the company to a manager or executive (Chermont, 2001), and "with information available at some point in the chain can improve the level of forecasts for decision making "(Day, 2003, p. 10). A Management Information System includes an organized collection of people, procedures, software, databases, and devices that provide routine information to managers and decision makers (Stair and Reynolds, 2002).

The importance of information to organizations is universally accepted, constitutes, if not the most important, at least one of whose resources management and utilization are directly related to the desired success. The information is also considered and used in many organizations structured as a factor and a management tool. Therefore, the effective management of an organization requires the objective perception of the values and needs of information and information systems (Dalfovo, 2007, p. 39).

Next, the Figure 2 shows the flow of information and control in traditional organization computerized. The model shown in Figure illustrates that from an information entered into the system by users about the products, it is possible that managers and other
users to query and analyze the stock through the database updated with each new information entered.

![Diagram](image)

**FIGURE 2** - Flow of Information and Control organization in traditional computerized. Source: Adapted from Benjamin apud GRAEML Morton (2000, p. 41).

It is observed in Figure 2 that are supported by the executive information systems and are connected via a common database (database). Technological developments have brought new developments that facilitate the analysis of the real situation of organizations through statements and management reports that provide reliable, practical and fast, when properly parameterized and users enter information correctly. The inventory management is a process, among others, which has its control, conference, facilitated by maintaining and updating information system.

**Stocks**

To Slack et al (1999, p. 278), "stock is defined as the accumulation of material resources stored in a transformation system." Yet complete due to the imbalance between supply and demand, a need exists for stock. The stock can also be defined as the quantification of items or tangible resources, moving or not, which are held by the organization in a given time interval (Souza et al, 2009), is a key player in business administration (Corrêa, 2001).

"In the commercial, the purchase and sale of goods are the most relevant operational activities. You must have an appropriate level of inventory to serve its customers at the right time, with the right amount and required '(Koxne, Haussmann and Beuren, 2006, p. 2). The
formation of the stock is directly related to the imbalance between demand and supply (Bertaglia, 2005 apud Souza et al 2009).

According to Ching (2001, p. 31),

[...] One is never sure of the amount to be requested by customers, one of the first issues considered in inventory control is the sales forecast future demand as well as the estimated spare time from the request to the supplier until the arrival of the goods at our facility.

The inventory management, as Rodrigues and Oliveira (2009), seeks to reduce potential losses, through the rational use. Thus, through an efficient inventory management, the amount of items to be accumulated or disposed of in stock will be minimal. Meurer (2002) stresses that a reduction in the level of inventory could mean for the company increased availability of resources. He states that adopted another chance to highlight the benefits of keeping inventories more appropriate to the company's activities is the realization of calculating the financial cost of storing excess. He emphasizes that "the amount invested in excess in inventories could be used in alternative to a given rate of interest" (Meurer, 2002, p. 33).

According to Brazilian Service of Support for Micro and Small Enterprises (SEBRAE) (2012), inventory control enables management in the following ways:

a) How to buy, when to buy, what to buy, how much to stock;
b) Receive, store and serve the stored materials according to the needs;
c) Controlling inventories in terms of quantity, value and provide information about the position of the items stocked;
d) Maintain periodic inventories to assess the quantities of material stored and states;
e) Identify and remove obsolete inventory items and damaged;
f) Prevents loss of goods;
g) Plan purchases, avoiding the storage of unnecessary items;
h) Reconciling balances physical with accounting;
i) Make the promotion of items that are not spinning;
j) Allows faster track of changes in consumption habits of customers.

"Inventory control is basically done by tracing the material theoretically available through manual or computerized, identifying the changes in the balances theoretical and physical inventories" (Drohomereantsk, 2009, p. 26). Figueiredo and Caggiano (1997, p. 50) express: "provided that the quality of information available is essential to the quality of the decision, an information system is efficient and appropriate prerequisite for managerial
success.” Thus, inventory control through information system are performed to assist companies and managers in inventory management.

**Inventory Management Information System Through:**

The central objective of any system of inventory management is to provide answers to three basic questions: how often should be assessed the level of stocks, when you should place a replenishment order and even how many units of product must be applied in each cycle request. (Resende Neves and Nigro, 2010, p. 4)

The inventory managers must be able to make decisions about when and how much to buy of each product, constantly, because the products are sought at different times for each consumer. It is common to identify inventory optimization as a goal to be achieved by production managers (Ballou, 2001). To achieve quick and accurate answers, professionals require efficient inventory controls, showing the quantity and value of products most wanted by customers.

Each company has its method of inventory control. Some primary methods used to control, which are notes on sheets, workbooks and worksheets, using other Management Information Systems as an essential tool for managing inventory. Souza et al (2009) points out that the inventory manager has the task of ensuring reliable and fast, but to do so requires tools to capture and record data in real time.


The challenge of efficient inventory management is to meet the end consumer without incurring unnecessary costs of inventory, ie, requires more careful in the pursuit of ensuring the presence of indispensable items to production with an equivalent reduction in investments.

To Frezatti (2000, p. 145) "[...] the control process is an integral part of planning, as it allows learning, incorporating knowledge, distinguishing performances and even changing propositions." Some controls inventory, according to Slack et al (1999), are made through computerized systems, the calculations involved in the control and new technologies. "The Management Information System must meet certain aspects of its operations, such as: administration, archiving and generation, control and evaluation, dissemination, use, and finally feedback" (Oliveira, 2007, p. 75).

The inventory control systems, information process and influence in these changes of items in stock. The situation of materials in inventory is updated whenever a change is made. After sales made to customers, these data are presented in documents and reports, allowing a survey of materials and quantities to be acquired by the company, reducing unnecessary
investment products and increased inventory, which leads to cost in maintenance (O'Brien, 2004).

In the next section, we present the methodological aspects related to the study of the management of stock in two companies in the trade of construction materials located in Uberlândia in Minas Gerais state, Brazil.

Methodological Aspects
The research procedure adopted was case study. According to Yin (2001, p.32): "The case study is an empirical investigation a contemporary phenomenon within a real life context, and the boundaries between phenomenon and context are not clearly defined"

This study was conducted in the period between November 2011 and September 2012, in two companies in the trade of building materials located in Uberlândia in Minas Gerais state, Brazil.

To preserve the identity of the companies, the objective of this study we adopted the names fantasy Enterprise 01, the company computerized and Company 02 for non-computerized.

The Company 01 was founded in 1987 by its current owner, who at the time had only his wife and daughters as employees and the instruments used were limited to calculators and office supplies. Over the years, investments were made in equipment and systems, aiming at improving processes and streamline decision-making by the owner, who is currently manager and mother of three branches. Inaugurated in November 2010, the Company operates 02 facilities with basic customer service without substantial investment, and is owned by an entrepreneur with 10 years of experience in the business of building material. Every physical movement of stocks of the company is controlled manually.

The method of approach was qualitative in nature. As for the goal, the research has a descriptive character, who as Gil (2006, p. 42), "has as main objective the description of the characteristics of a given population or phenomenon, or else the establishment of relationships between variables." In the present study, the aim was to analyze and report features of the process of inventory management in the companies studied.

As data collection technique was adopted to interview professionals responsible for the area of inventory management in both companies studied. The purpose of the interview was to identify the advantages and disadvantages of inventory control processes used by each of the companies interviewed. In parallel, monitoring and data collection was conducted through participant observation in Company 01, which according to Queiroz, et al (2007, p. 278), is a technique widely used by researchers who adopt a qualitative approach and
involves inserting the researcher observed within the group, becoming part of it, for long periods interacting with the subjects, seeking to share their daily life to feel what it means to be that situation.

One of the authors of this study, the role of accounting analyst Company 01 has been following the case since November 2011. Thus, it was possible to identify aspects related to inventory management, following the completion of data and updates pertaining to transactions carried out in the process of buying and selling by the company. In addition to documentary and bibliographic research (secondary) in the archives of the companies studied.

For the analysis and presentation of the study results, were inserted in this article some screens of information system used by the Company 01, is the software version 3.16.0.21 MGE Jiva developed by a Brazilian company: Sankhya Business Management, highlighting some of the options available to users for computerized control of stocks.

For better visualization of the advantages and disadvantages of using Information System, two tables were developed (Figure 7 and Figure 8), comparing the inventory management system with the use of Information and without the use of Information System.

**Presentation of Results**

Innovations are always seen as differentials, and can result in competitive advantage, which is a quality that a company has compared to its competitors, namely "competitive advantage is the ability of a company to work in one or more ways that competitors can not or will not follow "(Kotler 2008, p. 63). A growing number of competitors in the market of building materials requires entrepreneurs to seek solutions that enable success in winning customers.

Were obtained from two commercial building materials, located in Uberlândia in Minas Gerais state, Brazil with regard to inventory management, they are: the Company 01, Company 02 computerized and non-computerized.

The Figure 3 highlights the main impacts caused by problems in inventory control.
In the specific case of the companies in this study, the main impacts of inventory control problems are linked mainly to emergency deliveries, generating conflict and also customer relationships.

With regard to emergency deliveries, the manager interviewed Company 01 highlighted the fact that companies do not always count on inventory levels sufficient to meet more than anticipated in the case of some products essential to the progress of a work such as cement, sand, brick and other commodities. Regarding the problem of generating conflict, this can occur between two relations of the entrepreneur and the supplier, in this case the entrepreneur getting the same purchasing power in certain products, has difficulty replacement for another brand or vendor lock-exclusive, and the relationship with the customer, where entrepreneur has to meet his client in the best way possible and it needs to present to their clients as differentials, try to offer items sought to offer more than one choice of brand and colors, meeting deadline, since sometimes the goods sold are still awaiting delivery by the supplier.

According to an interview with the manager of the Company 01, was raised that the information system used by the Company 01 is the software version 3.16.0.21 MGE Jiva developed by a Brazilian company Sankhya Business Management, which is why the screens are presented in figures in Portuguese, since they have faithfully the original screens system. This system allows the customer base, suppliers and products according to the specific characteristics of each.
The Figure 4 illustrates, the screen displays the system version 3.16.0.21 MGE Jiva that illustrates the registration of products in the Company 01, through the presentation screen system used by the company.

![Figure 4](image_url)

**FIGURE 4** - Screen Product registration MGE software version 3.16.0.21 Jiva. Source: Research data and MGE Software Jiva.

The Figure 4 shows a section of MGE software version 3.16.0.21 Jiva where registration is done product. On the toolbar menu has the root system, where the user can quickly access the other available functions. Just below the toolbar has icons that let you add, delete, change, searching and updating new products. In section specifies registration of product, flap “Propriedades” allows you to select the group to which the product will be part, this group is a determining factor for the definition and calculation of taxes on this item. Also, there is the option to drive description, brand and NCM (Mercosur Common Nomenclature). For some specific products, the leading provider may also be registered. In the tab "Estoque" has the ratio of the amount of each product in stock of the company and affiliates, information that is updated with each new entry and exit of goods from stock.

As a way to control inventories, reports issued by the Information System are analyzed by the business owner to assist the decision making of the quantities to be purchased for each product and brand. As reported by the manager of the Company 01
reports enable, the maintenance of adequate stock levels and preventing possible mismatches caused by their fault, because unpredictable situations.

As an illustrative example of unpredictable situation, highlights the truckers' strike that occurred on July 25, 2012, had the following article published on the website of the Earth (2012): "Brazil Truckers Union Movement (MUBC), which paralyzed activity truckers of the country on Wednesday, the day of St. Christopher, patron saint of motorists, said the demonstration was approximately 100% compliance "at the time the drivers were prevented from transporting goods by the union, leaving some companies for goods without restocking to meet their customers (Terra, 2012).

In the manager's perception of the Company 01, it emphasizes the importance of frequent monitoring of inventory items to ensure a minimum inventory security. In many cases it is not possible to predict the demands of their time and products to resupply. So the company must maintain safety stock to meet the need of production or market (Souza et al 2009, p. 2). Still, Ahiska and King (2010, p. 1), note that "uncertainty in the supply process should be considered in making decisions that order to be able to manage inventories effectively."

In sequence, Figure 5 shows the configuration of filtering of the reports used by the Company 01 for inventory control. The report represents a true copy of MGE software version 3.16.0.21 Jiva.

![FIGURE 5 - Screen reports Jiva MGE software version 3.16.0.21. Source: Research data and MGE Software Jiva.](image-url)
The Figure 5 also shows the toolbar, which facilitates the use of other system functions by users. The main function of this section is to create reports for inventory management. The choice of the name of the report is done on the "Título". Already the tab "Filtros" allows selection of fields for the mounting of the report, with the classification of products by quantity, brand, supplier and other options for structuring the report with information necessary to manage inventory. The tabs "Ordem" and "Layout" enable the determination of the positioning information as the preference of its users. According to reports the manager of the Company 01.

The appropriate use of information obtained through Information System, according Dalfovo (2001, p. 11) "facilitates the professional especially in strategic decision making for your organization. [...] Keeping their inventories in minimum volumes predetermined by the variation of sales."

Sequencing the study is presented below in Figure 6, which represents the information flow and control performed in traditional business.

![FIGURE 6 - Information Flow and control in traditional organization. Source: Adapted from Benjamin apud GRAEML Morton (2000, p. 41).](image_url)

It is observed in Figure 6 that the information generated at each step of the process involves several employees from different hierarchical levels, to be passed on to the executive. In this form of control is not computerized, the executive has the task of
controlling the whole process of internal organization, based on the information received. Note that the executive does not have the instruments to facilitate the reconciliation of information produced in the finals with each step.

Considering that controls inventory of Company 02 is not computerized, or are carried out manually, using tokens and annotations, this study conducted a survey of the advantages and disadvantages presented for stock control without the use of Information System, compared with controls inventory with the support of the Information System. The results of the study for each of the two companies analyzed data collected from these Company 01 and Company 02 are presented in a comparative way in Figure 7 and Figure 8.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADVANTAGES</th>
<th>INVENTORY CONTROL WITHOUT INFORMATION SYSTEM</th>
<th>INVENTORY CONTROL WITH INFORMATION SYSTEM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No cost to the company</td>
<td>Ease of reference products in stock</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does not depend on energy or internet consultation to product</td>
<td>Facility inventory-inventory more frequently</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventory control accomplished through reports, defined by brand, product or vendor</td>
<td>Inventory control accomplished through reports, defined by brand, product or vendor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Possibility of making reports with comparative sales from products with higher and lower outputs</td>
<td>Possibility of making reports with comparative sales from products with higher and lower outputs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excellent tool for inventory management, when properly parameterized</td>
<td>Excellent tool for inventory management, when properly parameterized</td>
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**FIGURE 7** - Comparative table between the advantages of using or not using the information system. Source: elaborated by the authors

According to Figure 7, there is a company that does not use information system for inventory control, has advantages like the fact not depend on external factors such as power supply or internet connection for consultation or record low products in stock. The manager interviewed Company 02 emphasizes that the way to manage inventories generates no cost to the company to pay to use the system. For Scheer and Habermann (2000), the development of systems for the user is usually expensive and surrounded by uncertainties, such as the selection of appropriate tools for development, the duration of the development cycle or the difficulty involved in assessing costs. Meurer (2002, p. 31), believes that "excessive controls can greatly raise the costs, which can derail and hamper the efficiency of the organization, being necessary to consider the relationship 'cost / benefit' maintenance of internal controls."

Even with the "advantages" raised for inventory control without the use of Information System, stands out, however, that there are numerous benefits of a computerized system for companies that make use of it. Specifically, in this study, when asked about the advantages of using a computerized system the manager of the Company mentioned 01 that the Information System utilized allows users to query faster to items on inventory control activities
facilitating entry and exit of products, management and analysis of items sold among other benefits shown in Figure 7.

According Dalfovo (2007, p. 11) "many companies plunged headfirst into a restructuring process, without a real analysis of their capabilities and needs in order to confirm the adequacy of the process as a solution to their problems."

Sequencing the presentation of the study, through the perceptions raised in the interviews, it was possible to draw up a comparison between the disadvantages of computerized inventory control and control without the use of the Information System.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISADVANTAGES INVENTORY CONTROL WITHOUT INFORMATION SYSTEM</th>
<th>DISADVANTAGES INVENTORY CONTROL WITH INFORMATION SYSTEM</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Control done through manual notes</td>
<td>Represents cost to the company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ease of information loss, usually recorded on paper or notebooks</td>
<td>Product registration requires full data product</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difficulty understanding of handwriting</td>
<td>When releases are made wrongly, the stock is not true</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Often lacking in registration of product characteristics (volume, size, color, product line, etc.)</td>
<td>Difficulty in having a workforce able to use a Management Information System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difficulty in updating stock</td>
<td>Energy dependence and Internet, for use of the system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difficulty in analysis of best sellers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difficulty in conducting comparative survey conducted earlier patrimonial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is an agile tool for managers to assess quantity, products and brands</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FIGURE 8** - Comparison Chart of the disadvantages of using or not using the information system. Source: elaborated by the authors

Some disadvantages that are worth mentioning from the survey (Figure 8) in Company 02 are, among others: the difficulty at the time of check-in products and consulting the relationship of inventory items with more outputs. Consultations with handwriting notes require a greater expenditure of time for professionals involved in inventory management, and often do not provide accurate information. According Chermont (2001, p 33). "Information is essential, because it determines the future of the company. The systems must provide clear information without interference data that are not important and possess a high degree of accuracy and speed, not to lose their reason for being at critical moments."

On the other hand, a point raised by the use of inventory management in a computerized way by Company 01 is in fact the information system represents a more cost to the company. For a proper use of the Information System, in a fast and safe, there is a need for well-trained and able to perform the activities of product launches, registrations, among others, to feed the system. According Dalfovo (2007, p. 11) "many companies plunged headfirst into a restructuring process, without a real analysis of their capabilities and needs in
order to confirm the adequacy of the process as a solution to their problems." Also, the company becomes dependent on external factors, which can be highlighted among others: electricity, internet and technical support.

Finally, the comparative analysis of inventory management in a computerized and non-computerized enabled better identification of the benefits of the Information System for Company 01, against the Company 02, which does not have its computerized process. Despite the points considered as "disadvantages" of using Information Systems in the process of inventory management, raised by this study, considering that they are irrelevant when compared to the contributions of information technology for the company.

Regardless of the number of stages of computerization, the important thing is that there is a process of organizational learning that occurs in parallel with the introduction of Information Technology. The company [organization] must learn to use it and live with it, and especially to understand how it can help increase your productivity [...] (GRAEML, 2000, p. 115).

Conclusion

The purpose of this article was to analyze the impacts of the process of computerised inventory management in mineiras family firms of building materials, located in Uberlândia in Minas Gerais state, Brazil. Therefore, a multicases study with two companies, one of which is computerized and the other not.

The relevance of this study is evident in the emphasis that the construction industry has had on the Brazilian economy, and a city that has experienced a high growth in this sector in recent years, is Uberlândia in Minas Gerais state, Brazil. The information system has been a tool used by organizations in order to tailor the process of inventory control, seeking competitive advantage in the market.

From the theoretical foundations of Information System, Inventory and inventory management information system through the choice of methods and proceeded to study description, deepening of the process of inventory management in both companies studied. For the analysis and presentation of the results of the study were analyzed some screens of information system used by the company computerized, highlighting some of the options available to users for computerized control of stocks. For better visualization of the advantages and disadvantages of using Information System, we developed two comparative charts of the stock management system with the use of Information and without the use of Information System.
For better visualization of the impacts of the use of the Information System, were presented screens Information System used by the company for computerized inventory control, and were also prepared two tables of comparative advantages and disadvantages of inventory management by using System Information and without the use of Information System.

It was observed that the management of stock in the company not computerized presented some advantages, among them the fact that no cost to the company. Even with the "advantages" raised for inventory control without the use of Information System, stands out, however, that there are numerous benefits of a computerized system for companies that make use of it. Specifically, in this study, it was observed that the Enterprise Information System computerized studied allows users to inventory control through reporting, query faster gifts of items in stock, facilitating the activities of control incoming and outgoing products, management and analysis of items sold, among other benefits.

It is recommended that managers consider among the points highlighted, and assess the company's situation, before implementation of the Information System, making sure it has staff able to use the information system. It is also noteworthy that every hiring a new employee this should be trained, which incurs expenditure on training. One must also consider the cost of acquiring and maintaining the system, plan and its implementation.

Even that does not represent cost to the company, it is necessary, in case of inventory management manually, if the control has served the needs of reliable information at the right time.

Thus, it is expected that the study will help companies in the same industry that are reviewing their processes of inventory management. It is suggested to carry out further studies on the contribution and impact of information system in inventory management in commercial building materials, organizations in various sectors, in order to complement the analysis and contribution to industry professionals.

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